Serial No.: 09/867,879

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 15 as follows:

- - Figure 4 is a flow chart illustrating exemplary steps performed by standby location server **206** in response to receiving an update from active location database **204**. The components of standby location server **206** are the same as those of active location server **204**. Hence, a detailed description thereof will not be repeated herein. Referring to Figure 4, in step **ST1**, standby location server **206** receives a database update from active location server **204**. In step **ST2**, standby location server **206** checks the status of its local SIP location database. In step **ST3**, if standby location server **206** determines that the database is not coherent, standby location server **206** continues to check the database status until the database is coherent. If the database is determined to be coherent, control proceeds to step **ST4** where ~~active location server 204~~ standby location server **206** validates the database level and birth date in the received database update against the current database level. In step **ST5**, if the database level of the SIP location database is determined to be current, the update procedure ends. - -

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 3 as follows:

- - In step **ST6**, if the database level is determined not to be current, standby location server **206** begins the RMTP update transaction. In step **ST7**, standby location server **206** copies the RMTP update records to its provisioning log, reads the records written into the provisioning log, and verifies that the records were correctly written with a checksum. In step **ST8**, RMTP end transaction processing begins. In step **ST9**, the SIP location database maintained by standby location server **206** is set to incoherent.

The purpose of setting the database to ~~end-coherent~~ incoherent is to prevent modification or reading by another process while the database is being updated. In step **ST10**, standby location server **206** transfers the received updates into its SIP location database. In step **ST11**, standby location server **206** commits the updates to its provisioning log. In step **ST12**, standby location server **206** sends a message to its standby network provisioning module indicating the latest database level. - -

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 1 as follows:

- - In reading records from SIP location database **302**, if active SIP location server **204** receives a request from another cluster node for reloading, active location server [[**304**]] **204** uses the existing record stream and notifies location server network provisioning module [[**310**]] **308** of the first record read for that cluster node. This process continues until the SIP location databases on all requesting cluster nodes have been reloaded. - -

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 7 as follows:

- - Another function performed by SIP signaling router according to an embodiment of the present invention is cluster node incremental loading. As stated above, incremental loading may occur when a cluster node detects that an update received from active location server **204** is greater than it is expected. Figure 7 illustrates exemplary steps performed by a cluster node and by the active location server in performing cluster node incremental loading. Referring to Figure 7, in step **ST1**, a cluster node sends a request to the active location server for incremental

loading. In step **ST2**, the network provisioning module in the active location server receives the request and requests records from the location database associated with a next incremental database level above the current database level in the request. In step **ST3**, active location server **204** stores the new levels in the maintenance module and forwards the database records to the cluster nodes. In step **ST4**, the active location server determines whether the cluster node database is current. If the database is not current, in step **ST5**, active location server [[**206**]] **204** gets the next level and steps **ST2** through **ST5** are repeated until the cluster node database is current. - -

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 1 as follows:

- - Switches **210** and **212** of SIP signaling router **200** illustrated in Figure 2 may utilize the IEEE [[802ab]] 802.3ad link aggregation control protocol to dynamically re-route SIP signaling traffic around congested a failed links. For example, switch **210** may have multiple physical links connected to one of the cluster nodes that are aggregated into a single logical link using the LACP protocol. When switch **210** detects or is notified of a failure of one of the physical links, traffic is dynamically redirected to another physical link within the logical link. This dynamic redirection is accomplished at the link aggregation sublayer, and as a result, is transparent to higher layers. - -